



## Snowy Plovers at a Glance

### April 2011 Update

#### OVERVIEW

The western snowy plover breeding season runs from March through September, starting with males and females pairing off. The male will create scrapes, which are small depressions in the sand and the female will eventually select one for the nest. The clutches produced have three eggs on average. The female and male will trade off the incubation requirements for about 25-30 days. Then, after the eggs have hatched, the male continues the care of the brood for 30 days until the chicks have fledged.



Photo: K. Peterlein

#### Scrape



Photo: C. Bowdish

#### Clutch



Photo: NPS

#### Brood



Photo: C. Bowdish

### 2011 SEASON UPDATE

Current stats:

- 2 nests so far
  - 1<sup>st</sup> found April 18<sup>th</sup>
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> found April 25<sup>th</sup>
- 6 eggs, 3 eggs in each nest
- 8 plover pairs



The PRNS plover biologist Lacey Hughey and volunteers continue to monitor the beaches daily. Look for the next update at the end of May. If you have any questions, please email Lacey Hughey at [Lacey\\_Hughey@nps.gov](mailto:Lacey_Hughey@nps.gov) or Carolyn Campbell at [Carolyn\\_Campbell@partner.nps.gov](mailto:Carolyn_Campbell@partner.nps.gov). Have a great summer!

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